From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Labor Department Files Complaint Accusing Oracle of Widespread Racial and Gender Discrimination
Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 5:22:50 AM

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- The U.S. Department of Labor filed a federal complaint alleging that Oracle Corp. withheld more than $400 million in wages from women and people of color and excluded African-American and Hispanic candidates from hiring. Out of about 500 new employees in a four-year period, only five were Hispanic and six were African-American, according to the complaint, and more than 5,000 women and 11,000 Asian employees were underpaid. (The Guardian)

- Facebook Inc. and Google set new company records for annual lobbying spending in 2018 as Washington's scrutiny of big tech companies heightened. According to federal disclosures, Google spent more than $21

million, outspending its previous record of more than $18 million in 2017; Facebook spent close to $13 million on lobbying, up from its record of $11.5 million spent in the year prior. (Bloomberg)

- Former Alphabet Inc. Chief Executive Eric Schmidt will head the new National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, leading a group of 14 other tech experts charged with advising the government on the security implications of AI. Schmidt also leads the Defense Innovation Board, a group the Pentagon consults on various tech issues. (Nextgov)

Chart Review

CEOs' curbed confidence spells caution
PwC

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

WEDNESDAY

Brookings Institution's "Enabling opportunities: 5G, the internet of things, and communities of color" event	11 a.m.
Tech Policy Institute's "The Future of Connectivity: Where Is Broadband Investment Headed?" event	12 p.m.
New America's "Death by a Thousand Cuts: The FCC's Dangerous Proposal to Kill the Lifeline Program and Hurt	12 p.m.

Low-Income Americans" event

THURSDAY

New America's "Rebuilding a Smarter City: Lessons from Houston" event	1:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

GWU's Institute for International Economic Policy's "Artificial Intelligence: What Can We Learn from Other Countries' Approaches?" event	12:30 p.m.

New data on Gillette's 'We Believe: The Best Men Can Be' ad

New data from Morning Consult once again proves that a social media frenzy does not always equal a brand crisis and reveals a truer signal on how consumers are reacting to Gillette's 'We Believe: The Best Men Can Be' ad.

General

A Surge of States Take on Data Privacy as Congress Stalls
Ashley Gold and Sarah Kuranda, The Information

Last June, the technology industry cringed as California's legislature passed a new data privacy law that will give residents more control over how their personal data is used by Facebook, Google and other big companies. Now it is bracing for a wave of action by other states, at least eight of which are considering similar data privacy measures.

Starboard, Elliott Management Call on eBay to Shed StubHub, Classifieds
Cara Lombardo and Laura Stevens, The Wall Street Journal

EBay Inc. is being circled by a pair of activist investors who want it to consider parting ways with its StubHub ticketing and classified-ads businesses, a move that would mark the company's second major fracturing in recent years.

Pallone Schedules Meeting to Formalize Committee, Subcommittees
John Eggerton, Broadcasting & Cable

New House Energy & Commerce Committee chair Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) has scheduled a Jan. 24 "organizational" meeting to adopt the new rules of the road for the committee and subcommittees under Democratic control.

Tech billionaire, Democrats clash over campaign tactics and data
Maggie Severns and Alex Thompson, Politico

Billionaire Reid Hoffman quietly became a major force in Democratic politics

over the last two years, but his groups' clashes within the party and involvement in controversial campaign tactics are causing some Democrats to question whether partnering with him on a $35 million-plus overhaul of the party's data infrastructure would be a mistake.

Latest Bills to End Shutdown Include $25 Million Bump to Technology Modernization Fund
Aaron Boyd, Nextgov

The latest spending package put forward by both chambers of Congress proposes to add some money to the Technology Modernization Fund-a revolving fund to help agencies with critical IT projects-though a fraction of what lawmakers had included in previous spending bills.

Stocks Gain as Traders Eye Earnings; Dollar Drops: Markets Wrap
Robert Brand, Bloomberg

U.S. equity-index futures gained alongside stocks in Europe on Wednesday as traders juggled the latest corporate earnings with moves to end the U.S. government shutdown and doubts over progress on trade talks. The yen slid as the Bank of Japan cut its inflation outlook.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

E.U. Fines Mastercard $650 Million Over Fees Merchants Were Forced to Pay
Amie Tsang, The New York Times

The European Commission has fined Mastercard 571 million euros, or around $650 million, for breaching antitrust rules by raising payment-processing fees artificially, leading to higher prices for retailers and consumers.

Qualcomm didn't have enough power to hurt chip competition, expert testifies
Shara Tibken, CNET

Qualcomm didn't have enough power to hurt competition in the mobile chip market, one of the company's experts testified Tuesday. Tasneem Chipty, an expert in competition policy and antitrust economics, pointed to instances where Qualcomm did things like cut chip pricing in response to strong

MediaTek processors hitting the market or Intel possibly winning business with Apple.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

AT&T, Verizon gear up for 5G network slicing in 2020, 2021
Monica Alleven, FierceWireless

Network slicing is one of those things 5G industry experts often cite when they're describing the benefits of a 5G world. At its most basic, network slicing provides for a more efficient use of the network. Instead of allocating on a serialized basis, operators can do things in parallel by allocating network resources and applying certain quality of service (QoS) elements to them.

FCC's 28 GHz auction surpasses $700M
Matt Kapko, FierceWireless

The FCC's auction of 28 GHz spectrum officially surpassed $700 million after 35 days of bidding activity. The total amount of provisionally winning bids has reached $700,984,710 after 152 rounds of bidding. Activity has picked up slightly after a period of lull, but the auction is suspended today for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will resume Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. EST.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Progressives target Amazon
David McCabe, Axios

Amazon has become a recurring symbol of economic inequality for newly emboldened progressive Democrats.

Supreme Court won't hear a lawsuit over defamatory Yelp reviews
Adi Robertson, The Verge

The US Supreme Court has declined to hear a case regarding whether Yelp is culpable for removing defamatory reviews from its site, resolving a case that could have affected web platforms' legal protections. Today's list of Supreme Court orders denies a complaint brought by Dawn Hassell, an attorney who requested that Yelp take down false, negative reviews about her practice.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

DHS releases emergency order to prevent DNS hijacking
Sean Lyngaas, Cyberscoop

The Department of Homeland Security has issued a rare "emergency" directive ordering federal civilian agencies to secure the login credentials for their internet domain records.

New intelligence strategy identifies emerging tech as major threat
Morgan Chalfant, The Hill

Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats on Tuesday released the strategy meant to guide the U.S. intelligence community over the next four years, placing an emphasis on threats posed by new and emerging technologies.

Apple's Security Expert Joined the ACLU to Tackle 'Authoritarian Fever'
Kim Zetter, Motherboard

Jon Callas is an elder statesman in the world of computer security and cryptography. He's been a vanguard in developing security for mobile communications and email as chief technology officer and co-founder of PGP Corporation-which created Pretty Good Privacy, the first widely available commercial encryption software-and serving the same roles at Silent Circle and Blackphone, touted as the world's most secure Android phone.

Startups Embroiled in Debate Over Ethics of Facial Recognition
Kevin McLaughlin, The Information

The controversy that swept up leading tech companies last year over whether facial recognition software is accurate enough to be sold to law enforcement agencies shows no signs of abating. Last week, a group of Amazon shareholders demanded that it stop selling the technology to police, and pushed for a vote on the matter at the company's shareholder meeting in May.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Unintended consequence: Federal cybersecurity workforce a potential casualty of the shutdown
Frank J. Cilluffo and Sharon L. Cardash, The Hill

The partial shutdown of the US government may well end up damaging cybersecurity but perhaps not in the way most commonly thought. The most common and understandable concern is that the country's current ability to respond to an emergency in the cyber domain is hampered.

I Tried to Block Amazon From My Life. It Was Impossible.
Kashmir Hill, Gizmodo

Apparently, I am a masochist. I am on a mission to live without the tech giants-to discover whether such a thing is even possible.

Is Big Tech Merging With Big Brother? Kinda Looks Like It
David Samuels, Wired

A friend of mine, who runs a large television production company in the car-mad city of Los Angeles, recently noticed that his intern, an aspiring filmmaker from the People's Republic of China, was walking to work.

Research Reports

More Responsible Use of Workforce Data Required to Strengthen Employee Trust and Unlock Growth, According to Accenture Report
Accenture

Business leaders will need to implement responsible workforce data strategies if they are to build the employee trust that will help generate sustained revenue growth, according to a new report from Accenture. The Accenture Strategy report, "Decoding Organizational DNA," is based on qualitative and quantitative research, including global surveys of 1,400 C-level executives and 10,000 workers across 13 industries.

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